

VANCOUVER FARMERS MARKETS COMMUNITY TABLE APPLICATION & GUIDELINES

What is a community table?

To engage our shoppers and create vibrant community hubs at each of our neighbourhood markets, we aim to involve organizations doing worthwhile and exciting work. We have set aside a subsidized space each week at every market for community groups involved in education and outreach about issues important to where we live.

How can my non-profit or community group get a table at the Farmers Market?

In keeping with our market mandate we are dedicated to working with **non-profit** groups whose focus is on **Food, Food Systems and Agriculture**. Due to increasing constraints and demands on our limited market space we are **no longer able to book groups not working directly with food issues**.

If your organization is looking for presence at the markets and is interested in supporting us through our Sponsorship Program, please contact Jen Candela, VFM Development Manager.

Our markets attract a diverse crowd of shoppers and to maintain an atmosphere of respect and neutrality we will not be accepting applications from religious organizations or political parties/campaigns of any type.

How much does it cost?

Attendance at our markets requires payment in advance of **\$35 per date booked**. This rate is substantially reduced from our regular market rates and applies to all community groups interested in attending the market. We can accept payment via cash, cheque or internet transfer only. We are unable to accept payment via credit cards.

What does the fee cover?

Your organization will have access to anywhere between 2000-6000 enthusiastic and engaged local shoppers per market – what better audience for any group looking to make a difference? Specific shopper demographics by market are available upon request.

The VFM will supply a table, umbrella or tent (if available) and chairs. If you have additional needs in terms of space or equipment please indicate them your application. **Please remember that we run in all weather (rain, snow, sleet, wind) and community tables are required to stay for the full day regardless of the weather.**

We cannot offer refunds on cancelled community table dates. We may be able to switch to an alternate date if given adequate notice of at least 72 hours.

What happens on market day?

We ask a few things from attendees at the market to ensure that the day goes smoothly and safely for shoppers, vendors and guests.

- Arrive at least 15 minutes prior to market opening and stay until closing, regardless of weather or turn-out. A market manager or staff member will direct you to your tent and answer any questions you might have
- Engage with shoppers from within the community tent – please do not walk around the market distributing your information
- Contact the market manager via our emergency cell phone if you are running late or unable to attend last minute
- Ensure that all staff and volunteers at your booth have read and understand these guidelines

Can we sell _____ at the market?

In fairness to our vendors there are limits to what items can be sold at a community table.

Items permitted for sale are: society memberships, raffle tickets, and event tickets. General donations to your group may also be accepted.

Individual fundraising (e.g. pledges for walks or runs as completed by one person) is not allowed. T-shirts, mugs, buttons, badges, plants, seeds, food items for sale, free food or handcrafted items may not be offered at this space. If you are unsure about whether an item is appropriate to sell or give away please contact us before your market dates.

Thank you for your interest in the Vancouver Farmers Markets and we look forward to receiving your application!